

**Keene Township
Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday March 1, 2022
7:00pm**

Members Present: Jeff Braam, Dan Briggs, Denny Briggs, M. Gasper, Ray Kreiger, M. Stahlin, C. Wojcik

Zoning Administrator: Jeanne Vandersloot

Public Present: Robert Simpson, Lauren Ghidotti, Jared Williams, Mark Hill and 21 Members of the community

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: Jeff Braam Called to order at 7:02 pm followed by Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of the Last Meeting Minutes: Corey moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Mike Seconded the motion, the motion was carried by a vote of 6-0

Approval or Change to Agenda: Corey moved the agenda as is, Dan Seconded the motion; the motion was carried by a vote of 6-0

Denny Briggs arrived to join the members.

Open discussion for issues not on the Agenda:

Correspondence Received: none

Planning Commission Member: None

Members of the Audience: None

Report from Township Board Representative: Corey reported there was nothing of significance from the Board Meeting

Report from the Zoning Administrator:

Issued a permit for Chirstoph Holzmann for a 1 story home at 1140 Shagawa Trail

Received a variance Application from Steve and Barb Roth

Zoning application not yet received from 10971 Potters Road

Several Junk ordinances

Letters for Flat River frontage properties for violations.

Old Business:

Public Hearing: Solar Energy Amendments

Vandersloot went through the proposed amendments to the ordinance for the public hearing. Comments had to do with the recent information that some property owners were going to have a solar farm installed. Many questions were asked from community members and answered by Lauren Ghidotti and partner from Invenergy. Most were regarding the type/size of structure, what the status of the project was, screening.

Dan moved to accept the amendments to the solar zoning as presented and to forward that recommendation to the Township Board. It was seconded by Matt Stahlin. The motion passed with a 5-2 vote with Wojcik voting no and Mike Gasper abstaining

Public Hearing: Cargo Containers

Jeanne went through the proposed amendments to this new section and recommended adding language for vacant land used in farming for clarification. Dan asked various questions on land, color and were clarified. Corey moved the amendments for approval with amendments as presented and to forward the recommendation to the Township Board. Matt seconded the motion and it was passed 7-0.

Review Application for Biofuel facility at Maple Row Dairy:

Application was presented by Red Leaf RNG, LLC for a biofuel facility located on the Maple Row Dairy Farm. Jared and Mark presented a site plan and answered various questions regarding the project, timing and status. There was no public comment. Jeff Braam motioned to hold a public hearing at the April 5 meeting. It was seconded by Ray. The motion passed 6-1 with Wojcik abstaining.

New Business:

Accessory Dwellings: Corey moved to table this conversation until the next meeting. It was seconded by Mike G. and passed with a 7-0 vote

Adjournment: Matt moved to adjourn at 8:54, it was seconded by Ray K. and passed with a 7-0 vote.